

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

DANIELLE BARRON, Individually,
and as Parent and Legal Guardian
of E.B., a Minor Child,
Plaintiff,

v.

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE
COMPANY,
Defendant.

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) No. 5:19-cv-591 SLP
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VIDEOCONFERENCE DEPOSITION OF STACEE BETH JOHNS

TAKEN ON BEHALF OF THE PLAINTIFF

IN PLYMOUTH, MINNESOTA

ON OCTOBER 9, 2020

BEGINNING AT 9:34 a.m.

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REPORTED BY: LESLIE S. JOHNSTON, CSR

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Stacey Johns
10/9/2020

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1 adjudicating claims under short-term medical policies?

2 A That would be one of the -- one of the codes
3 that would be reviewed. The entire claim's reviewed,
4 including all of the codes.

5 Q That's standard in the industry for
6 adjudicating these types of claims under these types of
7 policies?

8 A Correct.

9 Q There were a number of questions, ma'am, about
10 preexisting conditions and denial.

11 These claims, or the claims associated with
12 Emma Barron's surgery, they were not denied for a
13 preexisting condition; correct?

14 A Correct.

15 Q The determination of whether or not she had a
16 preexisting condition was not finalized; is that correct?

17 A Correct.

18 Q And at least, in part, the reason it was not
19 finalized is because at least one medical provider refused
20 to provide records; correct?

21 A Correct.

22 Q And as you sit here today, does Meritain have
23 any information about that particular provider as to
24 whether or not her records would show a preexisting
25 condition?

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1 A In the absence of the records, I don't have
2 knowledge whether it would or not.

3 Q Okay. So just because the claim wasn't denied
4 for preexisting condition, that doesn't necessarily mean
5 that the condition wasn't preexisting, does it?

6 A No, it doesn't.

7 Q Do you agree that the medical records that
8 have been shown to you and the ones you reviewed and the
9 diagnosis provided by the doctors don't support that this
10 was an acute injury? Do you agree with that?

11 MR. HOUSEL: Object to form of the question.

12 A Yes.

13 Q (By Mr. Teague) The medical records that
14 Meritain was attempting to collect, those were being
15 collected for the purpose of a preexisting review; is that
16 accurate?

17 A Yes.

18 Q They weren't being collected as part of an
19 appeal of the denial of Emma's claims; correct?

20 A Correct.

21 MR. TEAGUE: Madame Court Reporter, could you
22 pull up M-06461, please.

23 Q (By Mr. Teague) If we're looking at this
24 record -- have you seen this record? It's an operative
25 report from the OU Medical Center, date of service 2/6/19